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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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Item 46 of the preliminary list*
QUESTION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS
(MALVINAS)

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 13 July 1993 from the Permanent Representatives of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to convey to Your Excellency the text of the Joint Statement by the British and Argentine Governments issued in London and Buenos Aires on 12 July 1993 (see annex).

We request that the present letter and its annex by circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 46 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) D. H. A. HANNAY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland

(Signed) Emilio J. CARDENAS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Argentina

* A/48/50.

Annex

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE BRITISH AND ARGENTINE GOVERNMENTS

Taking into account the results of the Seventh Meeting of the British-Argentine Working Group on South Atlantic Affairs, held in London from 4 to 5 May 1993, the British and Argentine Governments have issued the present Joint Statement.

Both Governments have agreed that the formula on sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas), South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas, recorded in paragraph 2 of the Joint Statement of 19 October 1989, applies to this Joint Statement and its consequences.

Both Governments have agreed to send jointly the present Statement to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for distribution as an official document of the General Assembly, under the Agenda Item "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)" and of the Security Council. The United Kingdom will transmit this Joint Statement to the Presidency and Commission of the European Community, and the Government of Argentina will do likewise to the Organisation of American States.

Both Governments agreed:

1. To maintain in force the agreements in Points II, III and IV of the Joint Statement issued in London and Buenos Aires on 25 September 1991;

2. To replace Point I of the Joint Statement issued in London

and Buenos Aires on 25 September 1991 by the following:

I. INTERIM RECIPROCAL INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION SYSTEM

Taking into account the increase of mutual confidence between the United Kingdom and the Argentine Republic, and in order to progress towards the achievement of a more normal situation in the South West Atlantic, the System will consist of the following provisions:

1. Direct Communications Link

a. The direct communications link between the respective military authorities will be maintained - under the supervision of both Foreign Ministries - in order to ensure the exchange of information to allow adequate reciprocal knowledge of military activities in the South West Atlantic.

b. The respective military authorities are:

British Authority: Commander British Forces Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

Argentine Naval Authority: Comandante del Area Naval Austral (Ushuaia).

Argentine Air Authority: Jefe de la Novene Brigada Aerea (Comodoro Rivadavia).

c. The direct communications link between the respective authorities which includes radio, telex transmissions and telephone facsimile will continue to be manned on a 24 hour basis and will be tested weekly.

d. The communications plan between units and stations of the parties will be maintained, with the addition of an alternative telephone link.
The military authorities may coordinate directly any necessary technical arrangements.

2. Confidence-strengthening Measures

a. The parties will reciprocally provide, not less than fourteen days in advance, written information, duly acknowledged, about movements of four or more naval or air units within 55 nautical miles of coasts.

b. Reciprocal notification of identity, intended track and purpose will be given, not less than 48 hours in advance, of naval combatant units that intend to approach closer to coasts than fifteen nautical miles. These movements will require mutual agreement.

3. Verification

If questions arise concerning the application of the above confidence-strengthening measures, consultations will take place through the direct communications link. If disagreement should occur, the parties will have recourse to the diplomatic channel.

4. Reciprocal Visits

Reciprocal visits to military bases and naval units may be agreed through the diplomatic channel.

5. Application of International Practice

Naval and air units of the parties will observe the normal

procedures to ensure safety when operating in proximity, in particular the provisions of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea and the provisions of Annex VI of the Convention on International Civil Aviation of 1944.

In situations not specifically covered by this System, normal international practice will be applied on a reciprocal basis.

6. Duration

This system will be reviewed at a meeting of the British-Argentine Working Group on South Atlantic Affairs which will take place within one year of the entry into force of this System, on a date to be agreed through the diplomatic channel.

LONDON and BUENOS AIRES
12 July 1993